1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California	
2	Gregory J. Salute	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General SUSAN MELTON WILSON	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 106902	
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013	
6	Telephone: (213) 897-4942 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804	
7	E-mail: Susan. Wilson@doj.ca.gov Attorneys for Complainant	
8	BEFORE THE	
9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
10	STATE OF C	CALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2013-527
12		•
13	HOLLY LEONARD TILLEY a.k.a. HOLLY KRISANA TILLEY	ACCUSATION
14	a.k.a. HOLLY LEONARD	
15	15454 Sherman Way, Apt. 4-229 Van Nuys, CA 91406	
16	Registered Nurse License No. 735708	
17	Respondent.	
18		·
19	Complainant alleges:	
20	<u>PARTIES</u>	
21	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her	
22	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of	
23	Consumer Affairs.	
24	2. On or about August 29, 2008, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered	
25	Nurse License Number 735708 to Holly Leonard Tilley, a.k.a. Holly Krisana Tilley a.k.a. Holly	
26	Leonard (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times	
27	relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2014, unless renewed.	
28	/ / /	

#### **JURISDICTION**

3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

### **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

- 4. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811(b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.
  - 6. Section 2761 of the Code states in pertinent part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- "(d) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violating of, or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act] or regulations adopted pursuant to it.
- "(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof..."

///

///

7. Section 2762 of the Code states:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- "(a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, or podiatrist administer to himself or herself, or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022.
- "(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.
- "(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence thereof.
- "(e) Falsify, or make grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in any hospital, patient, or other record pertaining to the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section."
- 8. Section 490 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.

9. Health and Safety Code section 11170 provides:

"No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself."

10. Health and Safety Code section 11171 provides:

"No person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance except under the conditions and in the manner provided by this division."

- . 11. Health and Safety Code section 11173 provides:
- "(a) No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact.
- "(b) No person shall make a false statement in any prescription, order, report, or record, required by this division.
- "(c) No person shall, for the purpose of obtaining controlled substances, falsely assume the title of, or represent himself to be, a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacist, physician, dentist, veterinarian, registered nurse, physician's assistant, or other authorized person.
- "(d) No person shall affix any false or forged label to a package or receptacle containing controlled substances."
  - 12. Health and Safety Code section 11350 provides:
- "(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, every person who possesses (1) any controlled substance specified in subdivision (b) or (c), or paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of Section 11054, specified in paragraph (14), (15), or (20) of subdivision (d) of Section 11054, or specified in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 11055, or specified in subdivision (h) of Section 11056, or (2) any controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV, or V which is a narcotic drug, unless upon the written prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian licensed to practice in this state, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison.

13. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or

violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

### REGULATORY PROVISIONS

14. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, states:

AA conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare..."

### **DEFINITIONS**

- 15. <u>Hydromorphone/Dilaudid</u> Dilaudid is a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 11055 and is a dangerous drug within the meaning of Business and Professions Code section 4211, subdivision (a). Dilaudid is a brand name for the narcotic analgesic Hydromorphone. It is used for the relief of severe pain.
- Omnicell System The Omnicell System is a computerized automated medication dispensing system, which operates similarly to an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at a bank. The Omnicell medication dispensing machines are serviced by the facility's pharmacy. Medications are placed in the machines, which are usually stationed throughout the hospital. These medications can only be accessed, or withdrawn by an authorized staff person using their own unique personalized access code. Each medical professional at the hospital is assigned an account number and unique access code number. The system will not permit the use of a PIN code that has been used by any former employee, or is being used by any other current employee. After entering their own unique PIN code and each time the system is accessed using that PIN code, the person making access is identified and a database record of the transaction is made; which is similar to the ATM withdrawal of funds from a bank account. The system specifically records the following:
  - (1) The identities of medical personnel, who have accessed the identified medications.
- (2) The identities of the patients that the medications were allegedly withdrawn on behalf of and administered to.

(3) The date/time the medications were withdrawn by the identified employee.

The system records the time and date of access, and is able to provide a record of the drugs being accessed by the employee via the patient's name, the patient's ID number; the identity of the medical facility's employee making access; the name and quantity of the drug accessed; and location of the particular dispensing unit accessed.

### **CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Obtaining Controlled Substances by Fraud, Deceit, Misrepresentation or Subterfuge)

- 17. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 2761, subdivision (a), on grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined in Business and Professions Code section 2762, subdivisions (a) and (b), for violating Health and Safety Code sections 11170, 11171 and 11173, subdivision (a) and 11350 on dates approximately between March 2011 and October 9, 2011, in that while employed as a registered nurse at St. John's Health Center, Respondent obtained, possessed and self-administered controlled substances and dangerous drugs, by use of fraud, deceit, misrepresentation and/or subterfuge on multiple occasions, as follows:
- A. At all times relevant herein, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at St. John's Health Center (St. John's), assigned to the Emergency Room as a day charge nurse.
- B. St. John's uses **Omnicell**, a computerized automated medication dispensing system, which operates similarly to an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at a bank.

## Admissions of Respondent in Post-Arrest Interview

- C. On or about October 9, 2011, at 2011 hours (8:11 pm) Covina Police Department officers stopped a vehicle in which Respondent was a passenger for routine traffic violations.

  Officers determined the driver was in possession of marijuana and driving without a valid license; and that Respondent had three outstanding warrants for her arrest. Respondent was wearing blue hospital scrubs. Search of Respondent's pockets and purse disclosed the following items:
  - (1) three (labeled) vials of Hydromorphone;
  - (2) six (6) syringes in unopened packaging;

(3) three (3) syringes which had been removed from the packaging and appeared to have been used.

Four additional syringes were found in the trunk of the vehicle. Officers further observed that Respondent had track marks consistent with injection of narcotics on her right arm where the arm bends."

- D. Respondent made the following admissions to arresting officers, after being taken into custody, and advised of her Miranda rights:
  - (1) Respondent admitted that she had 'just left work' and had stolen the three vials of Hydromorphone in her possession at the time of her arrest from St. John's Emergency Room approximately 2 hours earlier (on October 9, 2011 at approximately 1800 hours (6:00 pm)).
  - (2) Respondent admitted that between March of 2011 and the time of her arrest (approximately 7 months) she routinely stole Hydromorphone from St. John's for self-administration estimating she diverted "three to four vials at a time."
  - (3) She also routinely stole hypodermic needles, which she used to inject the drug.
  - (4) Respondent stated she self-administered the drug, to cope with chronic pain resulting from an injury when she was 17 years old.

## Audit of Respondent's Omnicell Withdrawals at St. John's

E. An audit of Respondent's Omnicell activity during a selected audit period (September 15, 2011 through October 9, 2011) by St. John's staff following Respondent's arrest on October 9, 2011, resulted in the discovery of many irregularities and multiple instances of apparent diversion by Respondent. A total of 43 mg of Hydromorphone is unaccountable based on this audit, as follows:

## (1) PATIENT "A"

According to the records, no order was found for Dilaudid (Hydromorphone) after 0930 hours on 9/15/11. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 9/15/11 @ 1418 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record

2

found indicated that she administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

#### (2)PATIENT "B"

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 9/15/11 @ 1826 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the remaining medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

#### $(3)^{1}$ PATIENT "D"

According to the records, there is an order for Dilaudid 1 mg one time on 9/8/11 @ 1400 hours. Per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, @1434 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. The patient's MAR reflect that a nurse identified as "RS" administered the patient Dilaudid 1 mg @ 1515 hours. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the remaining medication. Hydromorphone 1 mg unaccountable.

#### (4) PATIENT "E"

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid after 1110 hours on 9/18/11. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report on 9/18/11 @ 1908 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe. No record found indicated that she administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

#### PATIENT "F"

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report on 9/22/11 @ 1522 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe. No record found indicated that she administered or wasted the medication.

Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

/// ///

28

<sup>1</sup> "Patient C" is purposely omitted.

## (6) **PATIENT "G"**

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report on 9/22/11 @ 1824 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe. No record found indicated that she administered or wasted the medication.

Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

## (7) PATIENT "H"

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report on 9/30/11, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe and @1918 report, on 9/30/11 @ 1629 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that she administered or wasted the medication. **Hydromorphone 4 mg unaccountable**.

### (8) PATIENT "I"

According to the records, there was an order for Dilaudid 1 mg one time on 10/1/11 @ 1050 hours. However, the patient refused all medications. Per Respondent's Omnicell activity report on 10/1/11 @ 1052 and 1252 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that she administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 4 mg unaccountable.

### (9) **PATIENT "J"**

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/1/11 @ 1751 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

#### (10) **PATIENT "K"**

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/1/11 @ 1908 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

28 | ///

### (11) **PATIENT "L"**

According to the records, there is an order for Dilaudid 2 mg. Per Respondent's Omnicell activity report in 10/9/11 @ 1637 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe and @ 1903 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient.

However, the patient's assigned nurse, identified as "HS", removed and administered the Dilaudid 2 mg. No record found indicated that Respondent wasted the Dilaudid 2 mg doses she removed. Hydromorphone 4 mg unaccountable.

## (12) **PATIENT "M"**

According to the medical records, there is an order for Dilaudid 1mg one time 9/16/11 @ 1300 hours. Per Respondent's Omnicell activity report in 9/16/11 @ 1259 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. The records reflect that another nurse administered the ordered Dilaudid 1 mg. No record was found indicating that Respondent wasted the remaining medication. **Hydromorphone 1 mg unaccountable.** 

## (13) **PATIENT "N"**

According to the records, there is **no order** for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report on 9/16/11 @ 1741 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2mg for the patient. No record indicated that she administered or wasted the medication. **Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.** 

## (14) **PATIENT "O"**

According to the records, there is an order for Dilaudid 1 mg Per Respondent's Omnicell Activity report on 9/16/11 @ 1924 hours, she removed (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. **Hydromorphone 1 mg unaccountable.** 

#### (15) **PATIENT "P"**

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 9/18/11 @ 1802 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

#### (16) **PATIENT "Q"**

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/1/11 @ 1842 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. The patient was discharged on 10/4/11 @1750 hours. No record was found indicating that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

## (17) **PATIENT "R"**

According to the records, there is no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/5/11 @ 1523 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record was found indicating that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. **Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.** 

## (18) **PATIENT "S"**

According to the records, there was no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/5/11 @ 1906 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record was found indicating that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

### (19) **PATIENT "T"**

According to the records, there is an order for Dilaudid 1 mg on 10/9/11 at 1650, 1825 and 2050 hours. The records reflect that Dilaudid 1 mg was removed and administered to the patient by different nurses, other than Tilley, at 1710, 1825 and 2100 hours. Per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/9/11 @ 1908 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. **Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.** 

### (20) **PATIENT "U"**

According to the records, there was no order for Dilaudid. However, per Respondent's Omnicell activity report, on 10/1/11 @ 1908 hours, she removed one (1) Hydromorphone 2 mg syringe for the patient. No record found indicated that Respondent administered or wasted the medication. Hydromorphone 2 mg unaccountable.

## 

## 

## 

## 

## 

## 

## 

# 

## 

## 

## 

## 

## 

## 

## 

# 

## 

## .25

# 

## 

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Grossly Incorrect or Inconsistent Hospital Records)

18. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 2762, subdivision (e) on grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that while employed as a registered nurse at St. John's Health Center on dates approximately between March 2011 and October 9, 2011, Respondent falsified, made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in hospital and patient records pertaining to controlled substances and dangerous drugs on records of 20 patients A, B, D through U as described more fully in paragraph 17 above.

## THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Use of Controlled Substance(s) to the Extent That Use Impairs Safety)

19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 2762, subdivision (b) on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that Respondent has used controlled substances to an extent or in a manner dangerous to herself or any other person or the public, or to the extent that such use impairs her ability to conduct with safety the practice authorized by her license, by reason of the following facts:

## A. Arrested After Theft and Self-Administration of Stolen Drugs

On or about October 9, 2011, Respondent was arrested while in possession of three (labeled) vials of Hydromorphone which she admitted were stolen from St. John's Health Center for self administration. Criminal charges based on this misconduct are pending.

## B. Admitted Routine Diversion to Support Habitual Drug Use

By her own admission and as previously alleged at paragraph 17, during the seven month period between approximately March of 2011 and October 9, 2011, while employed at St. John's Health Center, Respondent habitually self-administered Hydromorphone to control pain from a chronic injury "on workdays," and acquired the drug by stealing it from St. John's. Respondent estimated she diverted "three to four vials at a time" during this period.

## ///

#### ///

## 

#### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Conviction of Substantially Related Crime)

20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 490 and 2761, in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, in that on or about October 25, 2011, Respondent was convicted of a crime substantially related to the functions or duties of a registered nurse which to a substantial degree evidence her present or potential unfitness as a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety or welfare. The circumstances are as follows:

## DRIVING WITHOUT A LICENSE - 2011

- A. On or about October 25, 2011, pursuant to a plea agreement, Respondent was convicted on her plea of nolo contendre of one misdemeanor count of violating Vehicle Code section 12500 (A) [driving without a license] in the criminal proceeding entitled *People of the State of California v. Holly Krisana Tilley* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2011, No.1JB05540. The court suspended sentencing, but placed Respondent on summary probation for 1 year, under specified terms and conditions.
- B. On or about April 20, 2012 the Court issued a bench warrant for Respondent's arrest, based on finding that Respondent failed to comply with the conditions of her summary probation order. That arrest warrant was still outstanding at time of filing this accusation.
- C. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about May 14, 2011, Respondent was cited by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department officers (San Dimas Station) for driving a vehicle without valid registration and without a valid driver's license. Respondent was further cited for unlawful possession of marijuana while driving.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

21. In order to determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleged the following:

## A. Felony Charges Pending

On or about July 17, 2012 Respondent was formally charged with 23 felony counts related to illegal possession of Hydromorphone, a controlled substance, on dates between October 4, 2011